[Mr. M. N. Pillai.]

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Government have no information.

(*b*) No general answer can be given; but if specific instances are given, they will be examined on their merits.

Communities enjoying Half-fee Concession.

123. MR. S. SUBRAHMANYA KARAYALAR (*Pattanapuram* cum *Shencottah*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to place on the table a list of the communities that are now enjoying half-fee concession?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to extend the half-fee concession to the Muppanar community?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The member is referred to G. O. Dis. No. 609 of 23/Leg. E., dated the 16th June, 1923, published at pages 1081-1082 of part IV of the *Gazette* dated the 19th June, 1923.

(*b*) The entire question of fee concession is under reconsideration.

Perumalkulam Tank, Shencottah.

124. MR. S. SUBRAHMANYA KARAYALAR (*Pattanapuram* cum *Shencottah*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state what steps they have taken with regard to the acquisition of the Perumalkulam tank in Shencottah which is considered to be a danger to the sanitation of the town?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to take steps to close the tank before the end of this year?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The tank is *poramboke* and the question of transferring it to the Municipal Council is under the consideration of the Government.

(*b*) Considering the nature of the work involved and the large capital required for the purpose, Government do not think that the Municipal Council will be in a position to carry out the work before the end of this year.

Pokkuvaravu Work.

125. MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that they have resolved to direct *pokkuvaravu* work being done speedily, even in cases requiring subdivisions, without making any actual survey and demarcation on the ground?

(*b*) If it is so, will it not tend to create confusion in the matter of survey records and cause great uncertainty and consequent hardship to the ryots?

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(*c*) Is this not directly opposed to the objects stated by them to be the reason for the appointment of Assistant Tahsildars and to the express provisions of the Land Records Rules?

(*d*) Will the Government be pleased to state the immediate necessity that compelled them to issue this order?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes. Government have just ordered that the sub-division of holdings involved in *pokkuvaravu* cases be dispensed with for the present. The member's attention is invited to G. O. Dis. No. 12 of 24/ Revenue, dated the 6th January, 1924, published in the *Gazette* dated the 8th January, 1924.

(*b*) This is not likely for the reasons stated in the preamble to the G. O. quoted above. Further, that G. O. makes provision for sub-divisions being surveyed on individual applications from parties and plotted sketches being supplied to them, at their cost.

(*c*) The main object of the creation of Assistant Tahsildars was the inspection and survey of *porambokes* and detection of encroachments thereon and the demarcation and survey of *poramboke* numbers and preparation of plotted sketches therefor. The work of sub-division of holdings involved in *pokkuvaravu* cases was also entrusted to them subsequently. The present Land Records Maintenance rules do contain provision for *pokkuvaravu* sub-divisions being effected after actual survey and demarcation on the ground, following the rule requiring the survey of such sub-divisions in the *pokkuvaravu* rules. In view of the change of procedure now ordered dispensing, for the present, with the actual survey and demarcation of *pokkuvaravu* sub-divisions, similar modifications will be made in both sets of rules. (*Vide* the last sentence of paragraph 1 of the G. O. quoted above.)

(*d*) The member is referred to the preamble to the G. O. quoted above.

Sale of a Lion Cub.

126. MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): (*a*) Is it a fact that the tamed lion cub in the Public Gardens has been sold away? If so, at what price and to whom?

(*b*) Was the sale, if true, made with the permission of the Government or in consultation with or with the knowledge of the Superintendent who tamed the cub?

(*c*) What was the necessity for making that sale?

(*d*) If the sale was unauthorised, will the Government be pleased to realise damages from the officer concerned?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes. To Mr. T. M. Raja Ram, Carlson's Grand Circus, Salem, for B. Rs. 350.

(*b*) The sale was effected with the permission of Government at the suggestion of the Director of the Museum and Public Gardens, who is the Superintendent's immediate superior.

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